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13 August 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles

SUBJECT: Attached Draft Status Report to NSC

1. This is the first report prepared on an annual basis, in accordance with the change of rules a year ago. It follows closely the format employed last year, but is slightly longer.

2. Key Sections. The key sections are the Summary (pp.i-vii), the sections on Military and Political Intelligence (pp.9-13) and (within the section on Scientific Intelligence) the subsections on atomic energy and guided missiles (pp. 17-20). The final chapter on Collection is notable chiefly for the omission on security grounds (at General Cabell's direction) of all discussion of aerial reconnaissance; the discussions of ELINT and long-range radar (pp. 31-33) and on clandestine collection (pp. 38-42) are of extra interest -- the latter is virtually identical with the text you previously reviewed, and the revisions were worked out with [REDACTED]

3. Possible Issues. There are no splits in this draft, and none specifically foreseen. Within the key sections, you may wish to look most closely at the discussions of political and military intelligence (pp. iii-iv); the political intelligence summary has

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no specific counterpart in the discussion and was written within ONE. The military intelligence summary has the same lead language as last year, but dwells more on clandestine and technical programs.. The same emphasis is repeated in the concluding paragraph of the whole summary (pp. vii-viia), under Collection. The chief discussion paragraph on this point is para. 3 d. of Chapter B, on page 10. As in the past, there has been some service tendency to lay implicit blame on the clandestine services; whatever shading in this direction may remain seems to be very slight, and to be more than washed out by the full discussion of clandestine collection elsewhere, showing clearly how much we are doing.

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Secretary
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